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NOV. 1997

# BATMAN

## DETECTIVE COMICS

CATAclysm

DIRECT SALES

72111



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FOURTEEN

WILL  
MORAN &  
JASON



IT'S NEVER  
BEFORE - TODAY  
I AM HERE

WE'VE GOT TO  
THINK ABOUT

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
PAGE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
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100

0574

VINCENZO ASSOCIATI  
 ELETTRA ELETTORE

**PETERSON, EUGENE**

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MASS GRAVES--  
BURNING THE BODIES  
TO PREVENT  
OUTBREAK.

THIS IS  
A HORRORSCAPE  
SCENE.

GOTHAM  
HIDES US NOW  
MORE THAN  
HIDE.

CRASH--  
SO WHERE  
DO WE  
START?

"-- WE WANT DOWN THIS  
GUY--"  
GUY--

DEATH IN  
MOUTH OF  
ME!

WE DO  
WHAT WE  
CAN FOR  
THE LOST  
AND THE  
WOUNDED  
AND THE  
THIPPED.

AND  
WHEN ROBIN  
HAS A LEAD  
FOR US--

I WILL  
SAVE THIS  
CITY IN ITS  
OWNES!

I WILL  
LEAVE NOT ONE  
STONE UN-  
TURNED!

SOBRIETY WILL EXIST  
AS A PROTEST AGAINST  
MORRONS. YOU KNOW FOR  
PEACE EXISTENCE  
QUINQUA!

OH  
IT'S  
A  
BROT

HAH?

I MEAN, DO  
YOU EXPECT ANYONE  
TO BUY THAT  
HA?

YOU ARE  
NOT CONVINCED  
OR PLEASED?

HA?

COME ON! THE MARCH! THE  
DARTH MARCH BUT ALL THAT  
"PROTESTING NO ONE"  
WOW?

BEHOLD, YOU  
AND I KNOW KNOW  
YOU HAD NOTHING TO  
DO WITH THE MARCH  
QUINQUA.

PROTESTING, I MEAN  
PROTEST I MEAN IN ANY MARCH,  
OF THE MARCH.

HA?

DO DO  
NOT MARCH AND  
PLEASED?

LET'S NOT FORGET WHO'S  
GIVING YOU YOUR 666-POUNDER  
BUTTERBREADS SO THE CITY  
THINKS YOU'RE THE BIG-  
EST EXISTENCE.

ANDHOW  
"BOUT SOME  
REAL MILK FOR THE  
COFFEE?" THIS NOW  
DRINK STUFF IS MARCH.

MAKE YOUR  
COFFEE NOW  
EXISTENCE...

... WHEN THE  
CITY JONES MEET  
MY DEMANDS, THEN  
UNDERSTANDS IS AT  
MY HAND.

YOU GOT  
A ADVICE  
BACKWARD.

LET'S HOPE  
THERE'S BETTER  
NEWS AT WORK  
OUT THERE.

SOMETHING'S  
NOT RIGHT  
HERE.

YOU CARE  
TO JOIN US THAT  
WITH US, FOLKS  
SEE IT.

I'VE WATCHED  
THE GRUNKMASTER'S  
MADNESS DEGRADE  
A HUNDRED TIMES.

HE  
JANUARY  
IS WIND.

THE  
DANCE OF A  
LUNATIC OFTEN  
ARE.



WE KNOW HE DIDN'T  
CAUSE THE EARTHQUAKE.  
AND THE TEARS HE  
USED ARE ALL  
SEISMOGRAPH

THANKS TO  
DR. BELLAGIO'S FEEDING  
HIM SENSITIVE  
INFORMATION.

THIS GUY'S A  
PLAIN VANILLA  
BADBOY AND A  
DREAMER ONE  
AT THAT.



BUT IT'S NOT  
JUST WHAT HE SAID.  
IT'S HOW HE  
SAID IT.

HIS CHOICE  
OF WORDS IS  
ODD.

AS I SORTED  
EARLIER, THE  
GAMEMASTER IS  
REVEALED.

I  
GUESS



I JUST FEEL DUMB SITTING  
HERE, RUNNING MONITOR WHILE  
BRUCE AND JACK ARE IN  
THE CITY.



BEHOLD! BUT  
HOLD! AND I SIT HERE  
LIKE A DOOR DOG.

THEY  
ALSO  
SEEM.

I'M  
NOT  
IT.



THAT'S IT. IT'S STILL  
NOT  
THE  
SAME  
AS  
THE  
OTHER  
ONE.

THIS  
ONE, I THINK  
WE CAN GET IN.

YOU  
WANT  
YOU  
RECOGNIZED  
THIS  
RIGHT?

THAT  
MUCH  
CARE  
I CAN'T  
FORGET.





IS THERE  
ANYTHING WORSE  
THAN SCUM LIKE  
YOU?

GRROOO...

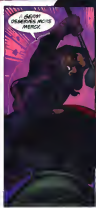
Worse  
than scum?  
Buddha.

POOF!

A MURDERER  
DESERVES MORE  
RESPECT.



GRROOO...



I CAN'T  
DESERVE MORE  
RESPECT



THAT'S  
SHADOWS,  
HUNTRESS.

YOU...



THE  
BIG BAD  
BOY  
SCOUT.

I CAN HARDLY  
BELIEVE YOU'RE  
DILATING TO ME.

YOU'RE  
THREE  
HUNDRED  
THREE AND  
ABOUT.

I DON'T NEED **ANY**  
TO HAVE **BARBERS**  
FOR ME.

I'm already  
GROWN. A LITTLE  
OVERGROWN  
OUTRAGE.

I WON'T LET YOU CRIPPLE THIS  
PLAN. NO MATTER WHAT  
HE'S DONE.

HOT IN MY  
TENT.

LOOK AROUND  
YOU. THERE'S NOT  
MUCH OF "ABOUT"  
ANY **ANY** THERE  
DAYS.

ANYONE YOU  
AND BOTH ARE  
OVER.

OVERMAN!  
OVER  
ABOUT!

ACTUALLY,  
I WAS GOING  
TO ASK  
MUM.

ABOUT!

DOWN!





THE CITY OBTAINED  
ONE OF MY ABANDONS!

HOWEVER,  
THEY WILL NOT  
RELEASE THEM!

THEY TOLD ME  
DO NOT GO TO THE  
SOURCE!

AND  
THEY WILL  
TRY!

WHAT IS  
UP WITH THE JAP-  
ANESE? WHERE  
ARE YOU?

ARE IT THE  
TOWN, FOR NOW  
MY INTEREST  
POINT REMAINS  
CONCEALED!

I NEED YOUR TALENTS...  
YOUR ABILITY TO GATHER  
MY MONEY PERFECTLY  
FROM THE CITY!

— ONE HUNDRED  
MILLION DOLLARS IN  
UNPAID CURRENCY!

HOLD THE BANDON AT  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS WITH  
YOU HANG JAPAN AND JAPAN,  
MAKING NO ATTEMPT TO  
RECOVER THE CASH... PERIOD  
TO PART.

I'M TELLING NO  
CHANGES THAT THE  
JAPANESE WILL BE  
WELL RECOVERING.

SEE?  
NOTHING  
IS WHAT I'M  
TALKING  
ABOUT.



I'M AFRAID LISTENING TO THE COMPLAINING POLICE MUST BE THE THROUGHTFUL STEP AND A JOINTLY EFFECT ON ME, GIL.

THE LATEST TAPE DEMAND IS LIKE THE OTHER ONE.

HIS PARASITE--



HE GOES ALONG FINE AND THEN RELEASES HIS PARASITE.

THEN HE GOES OFF. AFTER HE'S GIVEN HIS NEXT WORD.



PERHAPS HE IS A MAN WHO CROOKS HIS NOSE CAREFULLY.

KEEP CAREFULLY. IT'S LIKE HE'S SUBSTITUTING THE WORD HE WAS ABOUT TO SAY FOR ANOTHER ONE.



SO YOU'VE SAID SOMEBODY CALLS YOU AND TELLS YOU TO PICK UP A RANSOM.

AND YOU NEVER MENTION THIS PERSON.

AND THEY DON'T TELL YOU WHO THEY ARE.

AM I RIGHT SO FAR?



FROM.

WHAT YOU SAID.



AND HIS BUDDY DUNK IS THE SAME STORY.

PUT 'EM BOTH TOGETHER AND THEY AIN'T GOT ENOUGH BRAINS TO MAKE ONE MORON.

WE'RE NOT GETTING ANY CLOSER TO THIS GUY'S FATHER.







ARREST  
REPORTS AND  
DAILY BOLTERS  
FOR THE COUNTY  
JAILING PENS.

TO SEE IF  
THEY EVEN  
BROUGHT ANOTHER  
SOMEONE WHO  
COULD PULL OFF  
THIS GUN-  
MASTER SCAM.



WELL,



GOT SOMETHING?

LOOK WHO THE  
TWO OF THEM SPENT  
A WEEK IN LOCK-  
DOWN WITH.

THEY WERE  
ALL-WAITING TEAM.  
OH SENSITIVE  
BUTTS.



YEAH,

REMEMBER...



THERE'S  
GOING TO BE A PLAN  
GETTING MYSTOWN  
BACK ON LINE.

IT'S THE  
GOVERNOR, MR.  
MURPHY. HE WANTS  
A PROGRESS  
REPORT.

THE  
PRESIDENT'S  
PLANNING IN  
TODOROUGH.  
CAN WE PRO-  
VIDE POLICE  
ESCORT?

MR. MURPHY?  
ARE YOU  
SLEEPING?





I AM LISTENING!

I HAVE A CITY IN RUINS.

NO WATER OR POWER OR PHONES.



AND THAT GENERATOR IS GIVING ME A HEADACHE!  
ARE YOU WEARING A GUN, JUST I WANT YOU TO SHOOT THAT DAMN THING.

NO PROBABLE CAUSE, NEVER GUNSHOT.



YOU'RE NOT HERE WITH ANOTHER PROBLEM, ARE YOU, JIM?



YOU WANTED MY ESTIMATE FOR HOW MUCH LONGER WE'LL NEED THE NATIONAL GUARD IN GERMANY.



WELL, GUNSHOT. THERE ARE SOME JERKS HERE TO SEE YOU?

DO I LOOK LIKE I HAVE TIME FOR THIS, DON'T?

Send them JIMMY!



THEY'RE VERY... AGGRESSIVE!

WHERE'D THE /JERKS/ SHOW UP?

ONE HUNDRED MILLION BUCKS. WE'RE HERE TO STAY.





I DON'T SEE  
BOMB ANYWHERE  
AROUND HERE...

BARBRA SAID  
HE LEFT AHEAD  
OF US.



HE HAD THE  
MACE'S LOCATION  
BUT NOT HIS  
IDENTITY.

THE TIME IS  
ALREADY UPON  
US. WE'VE GOT...



THE CITY WILL PAY  
AND THEY WILL HAVE  
NO FURTHER USE  
TO ME.

LOOK AT  
ME. I'M ALL  
A-PARTY.



LIKE YOU'RE  
ACTUALLY GOING  
TO DO A FINE  
BRAIN-O.

COME  
ON... COME ON...  
JUST A LITTLE  
MORE...



BATMAN--  
ARE YOU HERE--  
AND ARE?

IN ABOUT  
FIFTEEN--  
MINUTES!

THAT OR RISK  
OF BRIBING  
THOSE



MY DAD WENT  
TO SEE THE MAYOR  
AND HE'S BEEN  
GONE FOR HOURS

AND I  
CAN'T GET  
THROUGH TO  
CITY HALL AT ALL



I'M  
GETTING  
NEARER

WE'RE  
ON IT.

NEARER--  
ANY-- ON IT,  
NIGHTWING.



I CAN'T SPARE THE TIME  
AWAY FROM HERE. THERE'RE  
TOO MANY LIVES AT STAKE  
HERE TO TRADE FOR  
ONE.

EVERY  
THING'S  
GONE.

...I  
UNDER-  
STAND.



YOU'LL  
NEED A WHOLE  
LOT MORE!

OUTRAGE  
WILL FIGHT  
ME!

THE QUARMASTER  
WILL HAVE THE LAST  
LAUGH!

AND IF  
THEY WON'T  
PAY FOR THE  
LIFE OF THEIR  
MURDER...

WELL... I'VE HADEN OUT  
GONE MORE PROBABLY  
YOU'VE SEE.

ALL RIGHT, "QUARMASTER"  
THE SHOW'S OVER!

NO!  
DON'T STEP  
JUST GOVERN!



**LISTEN  
TO THE... HOLDING  
MYN, OFFICERS.**

**EVERY BODY  
ALL THE DEEP  
CHAINED GARDEN  
THE ALBION OF  
THIS CITY...**

**...IT WOULD  
BE A FITTY TO ADD  
ONE MORE.**

**TO BE CONCLUDED!**

**CONTINUES IN  
CATHARTIC # 97**

# Detective Comments

Dear Detective  
Comments,  
Gearhead's more  
machine than man.  
That's cool!

**CINDY PARRISH  
NEWTON,  
CONNECTICUT**

*Easy for you to say*

Dear Batcave  
Detectives,  
I had thought that  
Gearhead was going  
to reuse the  
Batmobile with his  
cybernetic circuits  
and attempt to use it  
to kill Batman. At  
least, that's what  
Reviews led me to  
believe. Nevertheless,  
this two-part story  
was a good  
development for  
Nathan Finch. His  
foresight and  
planning, his icy  
determination, and  
his monstrous  
transformations have  
already boosted him

out of the minor leagues of villainy.  
While he is not yet a Joker- or Bane-  
level villain, he is clearly on the way  
up. I hope his next appearance will  
complete the tale of his origin.

Score one for the Batmobile, as  
well. I had no idea it was so intelligent.  
Perhaps next we can see some more  
of Batman's other tools, like whatever  
populates his utility belt these days.

Naughty naughty, putting Robin on  
the cover when he's not in the comic.  
He's still chasing Dave around Europe.  
Don't raise my hopes like that. Alfred  
filled in well for the Boy Wonder this  
issue, though, running to Batman's  
rescue. Now if only the Birds of Prey  
would put in an appearance.

**JAY MCINTYRE  
DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

Now that the Birds will be appearing on  
the stands a bit more frequently, they might  
just pop in here now and again, although  
it's equally likely you'll see some of  
Gotham's deviants hanging out with them.

Dear Detectives,

Obviously, the real star of Detective  
Comics #718 was the Batmobile. I'm

curious: Has there ever been a Bat-story  
that focused so much on the Caped  
Crusader's wheels? I can't recall one.

**J. HURLEY  
TUCSON, ARIZONA**

Hey, Detectives,

At first I thought Gearhead was  
cool, but now he is getting tiresome  
and boring. I like the fact that he  
constantly evades capture. That would  
be better with a more menacing villain  
such as the Joker, Poison Ivy or Two-  
Face. If you bring Gearhead back,  
have Batman dismantle him so he can  
never come back. Gearhead would be  
a better challenge for Spoiler.

The one good part of the story was  
Alfred leaving the mansion. Alfred is  
part of the Bat team, and I would like  
to see him play a more active role in  
the team. In the meantime bring back  
Harold, he has totally disappeared.

**DAVID OHMER  
COVINGTON, KENTUCKY**

To Whom It May Concern,

An avid reader of all Batman titles in  
the past, I had to stop collecting copies

about a year ago due to financial  
concerns (poor college student).  
However, I'm back in the comic stores  
now, and with a nagging question:  
When I stopped collecting comics, it  
seemed as though the Batmans and  
Robins tales had been set aside to focus  
on solo adventures for those particular  
characters, but Detective Comics  
featured them working together, which I  
loved. Now, from what I've seen,  
Detective Comics has become another  
Batman solo book. Is this the case, and  
if so, when can we begin expecting  
Batman/Robin team-ups again?

Thanks for your help,  
**JENNIFER STEVENS  
TALLORIESPAUL.COM**

While not absolutely every issue of  
Detective will have Robin in it, by no  
means is this title a solo Batman book,  
my extremely unscientific study has  
confirmed what I suspected without ever  
actually checking it out: "I'm probably  
has more Batman and Robin team-ups  
than all the other Batman books  
combined. In fact, from Detective #900  
through Detective #722, there are only  
five issues that didn't have Robin in them.  
Not a bad average overall, eh wot?"

## NEXT ISSUE:



The Catclysm may be over, but the Aftermath begins. It's in Detective  
Comics #722, "Statistics," by Chuck Dixon, Jen Azaro, James Hudgins,  
Gloria Vespaer and John Costanza. See you there.

—Scott Peterson  
editorial@icmuddy.net

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# Taking a Stand Against Evil

Join the  
Dark Knight,  
Robin,  
Batgirl, and  
Nightwing for  
all-new thrills  
every month!

Daily Templar,  
Rich Burchett,  
and Terry Beatty

First  
issue  
slams  
into  
stores  
this  
April

BATMAN  
GOTHAM  
ADVENTURES

Use emblem to help the common hero and  
beware the Dark Knight's sinister collection of villains.

FOR THE DARK KNIGHT™ COMICS™, SEE THE NEW BATMAN™





WELCOME TO THE

W

WELL  
YOU KNOW WELL

WELCOME TO THE

GCPD GUY